

Listing of Claims

After entering the present amendment, claims 1-6, 9-11 and 13-18 are currently pending in the present patent application. Cancel claims 7-8 and 12 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1-4, 9, 11, 13, 15-16 and 18 as follows.

1. (currently amended) A method of managing unread electronic messages comprising the steps of:

providing, at a location on a visual display, a first indicator of the presence of a number of unread electronic messages received, the first indicator including a count to indicate the number of unread electronic messages received;

enabling scanning of the unread electronic messages received without reading; and

altering said first indicator to provide a second indicator at, or proximate to, the location on the visual display that provides ~~providing an~~ a visually distinguishable annunciation by altering said first indicator that new unread electronic messages have been received since the unread electronic messages received were last scanned without reading,

wherein the second indicator is provided in place of, or proximate to, the first indicator, and

wherein altering said first indicator is selected from the group consisting of altering an icon of said first indicator, adding indicia to said first indicator, adding an additional count to said first indicator, and combinations thereof.

2. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of providing said first indicator of the presence of unread electronic messages received comprises providing the a visual display indicating the presence of unread electronic messages received.

3. (currently amended) The method of Claim 2, wherein the step of altering said first indicator to provide a second indicator that provides ~~providing~~ an annunciation that some of the unread electronic messages received are new electronic messages that have been received comprises altering the visual display.

4. (currently amended) A method of managing unread electronic messages

comprising the steps of:

providing, at a location on a visual display, a first indicator of the presence of a number of unread electronic messages received, the first indicator including a count to indicate the number of unread electronic messages received;

enabling scanning of the unread electronic messages received without reading; and

generating a second indicator at, or proximate to, the location on the visual display that provides ~~providing an~~ a visually distinguishable annunciation by altering said first indicator that new electronic messages have been received since the unread electronic messages received were last scanned without reading; ;

wherein the step of providing said first indicator of the presence of unread electronic messages received comprises providing the a visual display indicating the presence of unread electronic messages received, ;

wherein the step of generating said second indicator that new electronic messages have been received comprises altering the visual display,

wherein the second indicator is provided in place of, or proximate to, the first indicator, and ;~~and~~

wherein providing the visual display indicating the presence of unread electronic messages received comprises providing an icon indicating the presence of unread electronic messages received and altering the visual display comprises altering the icon to indicate the presence of new electronic messages received.

5. (original) The method of Claim 4, wherein altering the icon comprises at least one selected from the group comprising: flashing, bolding, changing the size, and changing the color of the icon.

6. (previously presented)The method of Claim 4, wherein altering the visual display comprises adding indicia to said first indicator.

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) The method of Claim 4, 7, wherein the step of providing a visual display comprises providing an unread mail icon indicating the presence of unread electronic messages along with ~~the visual indication of~~ the count of unread electronic messages, and altering the display to indicate the presence of new unread electronic messages received comprises altering at least one of the unread mail icon and the count.

10. (original) The method of Claim 9, wherein altering the display comprises adding to the visual display a second count of the new unread electronic messages received since the last scan.

11. (currently amended) A system for managing electronic messages received, comprising:

a display;

a message list of electronic messages received with identification of those that are unread;

input means for selectively displaying the message list on the display for scanning for unread messages received;

a first indicator at a location on the display for indicating the presence of a number of unread messages, the first indicator including a count to indicate the number of unread electronic messages received; and

a second indicator at, or proximate, to the location on the display comprising an alteration to said first indicator ~~to provide an~~ which provides a visually distinguishable annunciation of the presence of new unread electronic messages received since the message list was last displayed without reading, and

wherein the second indicator is provided in place of, or proximate to, the first indicator.

12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) The system of Claim 11, 12, wherein the annunciation

of the presence of new unread electronic messages received comprises an alteration to the count of unread electronic messages received.

14. (previously presented) The system of Claim 13, wherein the alteration to the count comprises at least one of: bolding the count, flashing the count, changing the size of the count and changing the color of the count.

15. (currently amended) The system of Claim 11, ~~12~~, wherein the second indicator comprises additional indicia on the display.

16. (currently amended) The system of Claim 11, ~~12~~, wherein the second indicator comprises a message icon on the display adjacent the count of unread electronic messages received and the annunciation of the presence of new unread electronic messages received since the message list was last displayed comprises altering the message icon.

17. (previously presented) The system of Claim 16, wherein the altering the message icon comprises at least one of: bolding the icon, flashing the icon, changing the size of the icon and changing the color of the icon.

18. (currently amended) The system of Claim 11, ~~12~~, wherein the second indicator comprises a second count, which is a count of the new unread electronic messages received.